

June 11, 2009

HIGHWAY 9 RECOVERY PROJECT SET TO START

BRECKENRIDGE – The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) begins its next project funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) next week – the widening of State Highway 9 through north Breckenridge.

In addition to widening the highway to four lanes between Valley Brook Street and Coyne Valley Road, the project includes reconstructing two intersections (Valley Brook & Coyne Valley), new traffic signals, relocating segments of the bicycle/pedestrian path, a new pedestrian bridge, new retaining walls and water quality ponds, drainage improvements and wetlands mitigation.

"This much-needed project will help keep Coloradans working while improving the safety of our highways and roads, says U.S. Rep. Jared Polis. "By building upon the transportation infrastructure that literally keeps our economy moving, the Recovery Act is sparking economic growth across Colorado. I am thrilled to see this latest installation of recovery funds coming to Summit County, creating jobs and enhancing our communities."

Work is scheduled to begin on Monday, June 15, when the bike path is temporarily relocated to Airport Road for path reconstruction. The reconstructed path is scheduled to open by July 2.

The project moves to SH 9 when the new path is completed. Initial work involves moving all traffic east of the current alignment. Occasional traffic stops can be expected Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., and 7 a.m. to noon on Fridays. The speed limit will be reduced to 35 mph in the work zone.

Only minor delays are anticipated during project hours but CDOT will monitor traffic and adjust and/or remove lane closures if long backups develop.

The first phase of work continues through October or November 2009 before shutting down for the winter. Phase two is scheduled to begin in May 2010. The entire project is expected to be completed in August 2010.

Zak Dirt Inc. of Longmont, CO is the contractor for \$9.25 million project, all of which is being funded by ARRA.

Weekly lane closure information about this project and others will be available at http://www.dot.state.co.us/TravelInfo/currentcond/ or by calling 511.

In all, Colorado will receive more than \$400 million for transportation projects and \$103 million for transit projects. For more information about how Colorado is putting the recovery act to work, visit http://www.colorado.gov/recovery.